

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AGR-20 OIC-04 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00

COME-00 EB-11 EA-11 FRB-02 INR-10 IO-14 NEA-10

NSAE-00 RSC-01 OPIC-12 SPC-03 TRSE-00 CIEP-02 LAB-06

SIL-01 OMB-01 H-03 SS-20 NSC-10 DODE-00 PM-07 L-03

PA-04 PRS-01 USIA-15 SAJ-01 STR-08 DRC-01 /229 W

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R 301602Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5174

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

USMISSION OECD PARIS

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NOFORN

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: EGEN, PFOR, EEC, UK, US

SUBJECT: UK COMMENTS ON THE OCTOBER 18-19 US-EC

MEETING

REF: (A) LONDON 12222; (B) COPENHAGEN 2610

1. SUPPLEMENTING BUTLER'S PRELIMINARY REMARKS REPORTED
IN REFTEL A, WILLIAM MARSDEN OF THE FCO'S EUROPEAN

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INTEGRATION DEPARTMENT REVIEWED WITH US IN DETAIL THE

OCTOBER 18-19 MEETING BETWEEN ASSISTANT SECRETARY
STOESSEL AND THE EC POLITICAL DIRECTORS.

2. MARSDEN SAID THAT THE TIMING OF THE COMMUNITY'S
FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF THE DRAFT DECLARATION IS
FLEXIBLE. THE NINE DO NOT FEEL UNDER AS MUCH PRESSURE
NOW AS THEY DID A FEW WEEKS AGO, BUT THEY COULD SPEED
UP THEIR WORK IF A VISIT BY THE PRESIDENT TO EUROPE
BECAME IMMINENT.

3. ACCORDING TO MARSDEN, THE COMMUNITY CONSIDERS
THAT THE BALL IS NOW IN THE US COURT WITH REGARD TO THE
"POLITICAL" PARAGRAPHS OF THE DECLARATION (THE PREAMBLE,
GENERAL PRINCIPLES, AND THE SECTION ON EAST-WEST
RELATIONS). THE NINE DO NOT INTEND, AT THIS STAGE,
TO MAKE ANY MAJOR CHANGES IN THE LANGUAGE OF THEIR
REVISED DRAFT (REF B). THEY WILL WAIT UNTIL THE US
ASKS FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION AND/OR PROPOSES NEW
LANGUAGE OF ITS OWN. EVEN THEN, MARSDEN SAID, IT WILL
BE DIFFICULT FOR THE NINE TO MOVE VERY FAR BEYOND THEIR
PRESENT POSITION ON CERTAIN POINTS, GIVEN FRENCH VIEWS.

4. WITH REGARD TO THE "ECONOMIC" PARAGRAPHS, MARSDEN
SAID THAT THE EC PERMREPS ARE EXPECTED TO COMPLETE
THEIR DISCUSSIONS IN TIME FOR DECISIONS TO BE MADE BY
THE POLITICAL DIRECTORS ON NOVEMBER 12-13. THE

NINE WILL THEN BE READY FOR A DETAILED DISCUSSION OF THIS
PART OF THE DECLARATION WITH THE US. MARSDEN SAID THAT
THERE ARE NO SERIOUS SUBSTANTIVE DIFFERENCES OVER THESE
PARAGRAPHS AMONG THE NINE. THE FRENCH - AND MORE
PARTICULARLY BURIN DES ROZIERIS - CONSIDER THEMSELVES
"CUSTODIANS" OF THE COMMUNITY, MARSDEN SAID, AND INSIST
ON GOING OVER THESE PARAGRAPHS CAREFULLY. (THE UK
DOES NOT HAVE THE SAME PROBLEM OF BUREAUCRATIC RIVALRY
BETWEEN THE POLITICAL DIRECTOR AND THE BRUSSELS PERMREP,
SINCE THE UK'S POLITICAL DIRECTOR, OLIVER WRIGHT, IS
ALSO IN CHARGE OF ECONOMIC POLICY AT THE FIT.)

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5. MARSDEN THEN WENT THROUGH THE REVISED EC DRAFT WITH
US PARAGRAPH BY PARAGRAPH. WE ARE SUMMARIZING HIS
COMMENTS, AT THE RISK OF REPEATING INFORMATION ALREADY
KNOWN TO THE US PARTICIPANTS AT THE MEETING, IN THE
HOPE OF PROVIDING AT LEAST SOME NEW INSIGHTS INTO EC
POSITIONS.

6. ACCORDING TO MARSDEN, THE UK CONSIDERS THAT THE US

AND THE COMMUNITY HAVE AGREED ON PARAGRAPHS 1,3,4,6,8,
10,12 AND 13. (NUMBERS KEYED TO PARAGRAPHS IN REF B.)
ON PARAGRAPH 2, MARSDEN SAID THAT THE COMMUNITY MIGHT BE

PREPARED TO ADD A REFERENCE TO "NEW PERSPECTIVES" IN
ORDER TO INDICATE THAT THE DECLARATION IS NOT AN END IN
ITSELF, BUT A NEW BEGINNING. WITH REGARD TO PARAGRAPH
5, MARSDEN SAID THAT HE HOPED THE LANGUAGE OF THE
REVISED DRAFT WOULD PUT TO REST THE CONTROVERSY OVER
"LIBERIZATION " ONE REMAINING PROBLEM WAS ITALY'S
CONCERN OVER THE AWKWARD STYLE OF THIS PARAGRAPH.

7. MARSDEN CONSIDERS THAT THE US-EC DIFFERENCES OVER
PARAGRAPHS 7 AND 9 WILL BE THE MOST DIFFICULT TO
RESOLVE. THE FRENCH, HE SAID, WILL NEVER AGREE TO USE
THE WORD PARTNERSHIP, BECAUSE THEY BELIEVE IT HAS A

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LEGAL MEANING. THE UK DOES NOT HAVE THE SAME
AVERSION TO THE WORD, BUT IT BELIEVES THAT PARAGRAPH 7
OF THE REVISED DRAFT IS SATISFACTORY IN THAT IT
HIGHLIGHTS THE SPECIAL QUALITIES OF THE ATLANTIC
RELATIONSHIP. AS FOR PARAGRAPH 9, MARSDEN SAID THAT THE
UK IS OPPOSED TO ESTABLISHING NEW CONSULTATIVE MACHINERY
AT THIS TIME, BUT DOES NOT WANT TO EXCLUDE THE
POSSIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING SOMETHING IN THE FUTURE.
THE UK CONSIDERS THAT THE LANGUAGE OF THE REVISED DRAFT
IS SUFFICIENTLY FLEXIBLE.

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8. ON PARAGRAPH 11, MARSDEN SAID THAT THE FRENCH OBJECT
TO INSERTING "BASED ON" BEFORE THE PURSUIT OF COMMON
INTERESTS BECAUSE THEY BELIEVE THAT "BASED ON" IMPLIES
TOO MUCH DEPENDENCE ON THE US. ON PARAGRAPH 14,
MARSDEN POINTED OUT THAT THE EUROPEANS WANT TO PUT
MORE STRESS ON RELATIONS WITH DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.

9. ON PARAGRAPHS 15-17, MARSDEN SAID THAT THE FRENCH
MADE A "VERY SHARP STATEMENT" IN THE INTRA-EC
DISCUSSIONS TO THE EFFECT THAT EUROPE MUST BE FREE TO
PURSUE DETENTE ON ITS OWN TERMS, NOT AS AN ADJUNCT TO
THE UNITED STATES. MARSDEN SAID THAT THIS FRENCH
VIEW WAS SHARED WIDELY BY OTHER MEMBER STATES.

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